

CLAIMS

1. A device for use in a receiver/decoder operable with different conditional access systems, the receiver/decoder including means for manipulating data received by the receiver/decoder according to a manipulation protocol which is configurable in dependence on the conditional access system, and means for storing parameters associated with the manipulation protocol, the device comprising:

means for receiving a command instructing configuration of the manipulation protocol in dependence on the conditional access system;

means for retrieving a parameter from the storage means in dependence on the command; and

means for outputting said parameter to the manipulation means for use in configuring the manipulation protocol, whereby the manipulation means is not required to receive all parameters necessary to configure the manipulation protocol in dependence on all of the conditional access systems.

2. A device according to Claim 1, arranged to output said parameter to the manipulation means upon receipt of a command instructing output of said parameter.

3. A device according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, comprising means for receiving a command notifying the device of updating of the parameters stored in the storage means.

4. A device according to ^{in claim 1} ~~any preceding claim~~, wherein said parameters include an identifier of the conditional access system currently being used by the receiver/decoder.

5. A device according to Claim 4, wherein said parameter is associated with said identifier.

6. A device according to ^{claim 1} ~~any preceding claim~~, wherein the device is capable of

- 38 -

receiving commands from a configuring application.

7. A device according to Claim 6, wherein the device is capable of changing an identifier of the conditional access system currently being used by the receiver/decoder in response to a command from the configuring application.

A 5 8. A device according to ^{Claim 1}~~any preceding claim~~, wherein each said parameter comprises at least one byte of a section of a data packet to be received by the receiver/decoder.

A 9. A device according to ^{Claim 1}~~any preceding claim~~, wherein each said parameter comprises an identifier of a data packet to be received by the receiver/decoder.

10 10. A device according to Claim 9, wherein said parameters include an identifier of an entitlement management message (EMM).

11. A device according to Claim 9, wherein said parameters include an identifier of an entitlement control message (ECM).

A 12. A device according to ^{Claim 1}~~any preceding claim~~, arranged to receive requests from a plurality of client applications for a plurality of parameters.

A 13. A receiver/decoder including a device according to ^{Claim 1}~~any preceding claim~~, said manipulation means arranged to operate under the control of the device to manipulate data and said means for storing parameters associated with the manipulation protocol.

20 14. A receiver/decoder according to Claim 13, wherein said manipulation means comprises a demultiplexer and filter operable to filter specific components of data from the data received by the receiving means.

15. A receiver/decoder according to Claim 14, wherein the manipulation protocol changes the filter so that only specific components of the data received by the

- 39 -

receiving means are downloaded by the receiver/decoder.

16. A method of configuring a receiver/decoder to access data, the receiver/decoder including means for manipulating data received by the receiver/decoder according to a manipulation protocol which is configurable in dependence on the conditional access system, and means for storing parameters associated with the manipulation protocol, the method comprising the steps of:-

receiving a command instructing configuration of the manipulation protocol in dependence on the conditional access system;

retrieving a parameter from the storage means in dependence on the command;

and

outputting said parameter to the manipulation means for use in configuring the manipulation protocol, whereby the manipulation means is not required to receive all parameters necessary to configure the manipulation protocol in dependence on all of the conditional access systems.

17. A method according to Claim 16, wherein said parameter is output upon receipt of a command instructing output of said parameter.

18. A method according to Claim 16 ~~or 17~~, comprising the step of receiving a command notifying the device of updating of the parameters stored in the storage means.

19. A method according to ^{claim 16} ~~any of Claims 16 to 18~~, wherein said parameters include an identifier of the conditional access system currently being used by the receiver/decoder.

20. A method according to Claim 19, wherein the parameter output to the manipulation means is associated with said identifier.

21. A method according to ^{claim 16} ~~any of Claims 16 to 20~~, wherein commands are received from a configuring application.

22. A method according to Claim 21, wherein an identifier of the conditional access system currently being used by the receiver/decoder is changed in response to a command from the configuring application.

A 23. A method according to ^{Claim 16} ~~any of Claims 16 to 22~~, wherein each said parameter
5 comprises at least one byte of a section of a data packet to be received by the receiver/decoder.

A 24. A method according to ^{Claim 16} ~~any of Claims 16 to 23~~, wherein each said parameter
comprises an identifier of a data packet to be received by the receiver/decoder.

10 25. A method according to Claim 24, wherein said parameters include an identifier of an entitlement management message (EMM).

26. A method according to Claim 24, wherein said parameters include an identifier of an entitlement control message (ECM).

A 27. A method according to ^{Claim 16} ~~any of Claims 16 to 24~~, wherein requests are received
from a plurality of client applications for a plurality of parameters.

15 28. A device for use in a receiver/decoder, the receiver/decoder including means for storing parameters associated with manipulating data received by the receiver/decoder, and at least one application or further device, the device comprising:
means for generating an identifier for at least one parameter; and
means for outputting said identifier to said at least one application or further
20 device.

29. A device according to Claim 28, the receiver/decoder being operable with different conditional access systems, said parameters being associated with manipulating data received by the receiver/decoder according to a manipulation protocol which is configurable in dependence on the conditional access system.

A 30. A device according to Claim 28 ~~or 29~~, wherein said at least one parameter comprises an identifier of a data packet to be received by the receiver/decoder.

31. A device according to Claim 30, wherein said at least one parameter comprises an identifier of an entitlement control message (ECM) to be received by the
5 receiver/decoder.

A 32. A device according to Claim 30 ~~or 31~~, wherein said at least one parameter comprises respective identifiers of video, audio, teletext and subtitle data packets of an event to be received by the receiver/decoder.

A 33. A device according to ^{Claim 28} ~~any of Claims 28 to 32~~, arranged to store a plurality of
10 parameters, each having a respective assigned identifier.

A 34. A receiver/decoder including a device according to ^{Claim 28} ~~any of Claims 28 to 33~~, and said means for storing parameters associated with the manipulation of data received by the receiver/decoder, and said further device or said application.

35. A method of configuring a receiver/decoder, the receiver/decoder including
15 means for storing parameters associated with manipulating data received by the receiver/decoder, and at least one application or further device, the method comprising:
generating an identifier for at least one parameter; and
outputting said identifier to said at least one application or further device.

36. A method according to Claim 35, wherein the receiver/decoder is operable with
20 different conditional access systems, and said parameters are associated with manipulating data received by the receiver/decoder according to a manipulation protocol which is configurable in dependence on the conditional access system

A 37. A method according to Claim 35 ~~or 36~~, wherein said at least one parameter comprises an identifier of a data packet to be received by the receiver/decoder.

